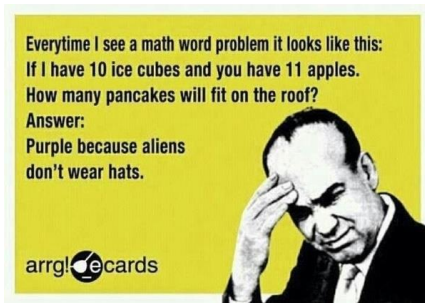




Thank you so much for the sweet Valentine notes, candy, cards and flowers! I deeply appreciate all of you. I hope you enjoyed spending time with your loved ones on this special day!



Our new math unit has been a doozy for some, please encourage your child to continue asking questions and seeking help during dismissal and arrival. It is crucial that they are advocating for their academic needs. I've enjoyed offering extra help to those who want/need it. Thank you for helping them at home and talking with them about how to ask for assistance at school.

IMPORTANT DATES

3/2: Early Release

3/8: Student Led Conferences

3/22: Poe Health Center Field Trip

3/23: Track out Day

Pick of the Week: Ava

Clear - 2 Liter Bottles

We are in need of 36-2 Liter bottles for our upcoming science unit. Within this unit, students will be studying ecosystems and will create terrariums and aquariums in these bottles. If you are able to send some in, that would be FANTASTIC. Please make sure they have been rinsed and dried as well as possible.

Book Fair

Thank you for all the amazing book donations from the book fair. I have these out for students to enjoy.

CHOMP Update

We have had a great week CHOMPing throughout the building. However, our classroom transitions have become a struggle for some. Side bar conversations have increased during group work which has impacted work completion. We have hit a critical point in our academic year where content becomes new/more challenging. With the off task behaviors that have become prevalent in our classroom, this can have a great impact on their learning and understanding. Please remind our students of the importance of working hard to stay on task.

Backpack Buddies

We need your help collecting donations for our BackPack Buddy Program. This program provides food for students in our community for weekends and extended holidays/track out. You can sign up to donate or volunteer here:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508084CAEA822A2F94-february

Thank you for your support. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions!

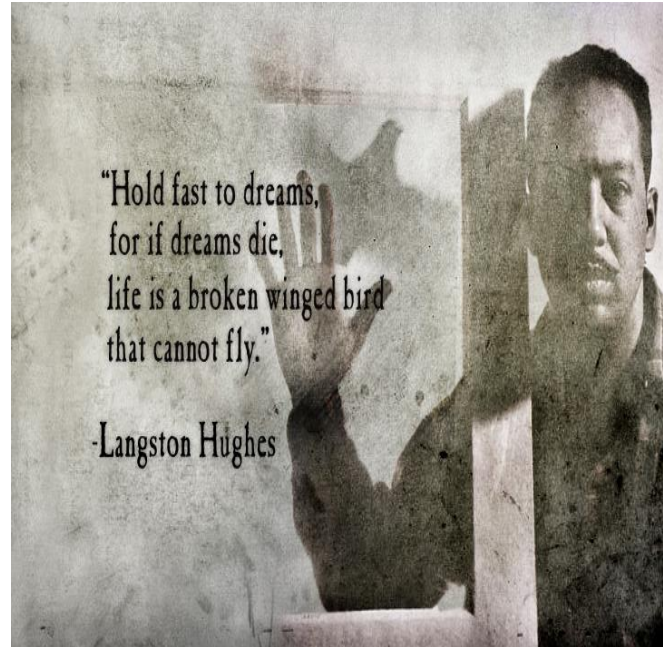
Newsworthy Announcements

Student Led Conferences

Please mark your calendars for Student Led Conferences on March 8. A Sign up Genius will be sent out next week.

Poe Health Center Field Trip

Will take place on March 22 and will coincide with our Human Growth and Development lessons that will occur March 19



Sycamore Creek Elementary 4th & 5th Grade Career Day



Request for Presenters

4th and 5th grade students will have an opportunity to participate in presentations from SCES parents and community partners to learn about a variety of career opportunities. Note the following dates for Career Days:

Track 2 & 4 -- Monday, March 19 from 1:15 - 3.

Track 1 & 3 -- Monday, April 16 from 1:15 - 3.

We are seeking parent and community volunteers to come and share their careers with our students. Volunteers will provide a brief presentation with an overview about their career. The students will have prepared questions for a Q&A segment. Guests will participate in three 30 minute sessions.

All careers are welcome as we desire to expose our students to a variety of work experiences. (You don't have to be the parent of a 4th or 5th grader).

If you would like to volunteer for one or both days, please complete the google form link below.

Click here:

[Career Day Volunteer Sign up](#)

Curriculum Update

Math: Students took their final pattern assessment last Thursday. This can be found in your child's Friday folder. Please review this with your child and save it for practice as they review for the EOG. On Tuesday, we were introduced to fractions. Students learned that fractions are simply a division of the numerator by the denominator. This concept is difficult for some, so it is important that they ask for help when they need it. We analyzed fractions and sorted these based on the following benchmarks: 0, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, > 1. After our sorting, students wrote rules that helped them estimate answers to addition and subtraction problems. Next, we began adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators on Friday.

Reading: In reading this week, we continued our theme unit. Students are encouraged to utilize their understanding of character interactions in order to analyze what the theme of a text. By the end of the week, the students were comparing texts with similar themes. I can't stress enough the importance of implementing the graphic organizers/strategies we use to learn these skills when they are completing multiple choice questions. Our daily 5 choices are designed to support their learning of these topics covered in our mini lessons. Therefore the importance that they are completing these choices daily. In writing, we continue to work on strategies to improve their fantasy stories. Students are completing their drafts and began working on their conclusion. Be sure to ask your student about their progress.

Social Studies: We finished our government unit this week. Students reviewed their board games and completed discussing the different branches of government and the Bill of Rights. Next, we began talking about citizenship and what it means to be a citizen of the United States. With that we discovered the importance of participating in our civic duties such as voting. We then discussed how the Electoral College system is used to determine our President. Next, we concluded our unit by learning how a bill becomes a law.

OBJECTIVES



I Can Statements:

I Can... In order to bring purpose to what your child is learning, we post I CAN statements on our board daily. It is important that your child is continually utilizing these to evaluate their understanding. You can check in with your student by discussing the following statements.

Math:

- interpret a fraction as a division of the numerator by the denominator
- use benchmarks to estimate the sum and difference of two fractions. .

Reading:

- Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarizes the text.

Writing:

- Write fantasy writing pieces that integrate the elements of a fantasy

Social Studies:

- Understand different forms of government and can explain the beginning documents that were designed after the American Revolution.